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Message Text

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ACTION STR-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00
INRE-00 ICAE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 EB-08 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03
LAB-04 NSAE-00 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01
TRSE-00 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /108 W
----------029134 060859Z /10
O 060848Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9360
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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GENEVA FOR STARKEY AND RIESZ, USMTN

PASS AGRICULTURE AND STR

E.O. 11652:NA
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, JA
SUBJECT: RUMORS OF GOJ ANNOUNCEMENTS: BEEF AND TBZ

REF: A. STATE 169806, B. TOKYO 12154, C. TOKYO 12171,
D. TOFAS 464

1. SUMMARY. NEITHER RUMOR REF A ENTIRELY ACCURATE. HEREAFTER MAFF WILL STRICTLY ENFORCE RULE WHICH PERMITS ENTRY OF DIAPHRAGM MEAT OUTSIDE OF QUOTA. EFFECT WILL BE TO EXCLUDE TRANSVERSUS ABDOMINUS MUSCLE FROM NON QUOTA SHIPMENTS. END UNCLASSIFIED. BEGIN LOU. AMBASSADOR DID NOT MAKE REPRESENTATION ON TBZ. INSTEAD MIN. HEALTH AND WELFARE PICKED UP ON AMBASSADOR'S MENTION OF TBZ AS ONE OF A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS AND SAID PM FUKUDA HAD MENTIONED IMPORTANCE OF ISSUE TO HIM, THAT HE HAD OFFICIALLY ASKED FOOD SANITATION INVESTIGATION COUNCIL TO MAKE RECOMMENDA-
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TION ON APPROVAL AND THAT HE HAD CHANGED FSIC MEMBERSHIP TO SPEED UP PROCESS. END SUMMARY. END LOU.

2. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. BEEF: MAFF CALLED IN IMPORTERS JULY 3 TO INFORM THEM THAT MITI NOTICE TO CUSTOMS OF JAN. 23, 1976 WHICH PERMITS DIAPHRAGM MEAT TO ENTER JAPAN OUTSIDE OF BEEF QUOTAS AS AN "INTERNAL ORGAN" CONTINUES

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TO BE IN EFFECT. HOWEVER, MAFF OFFICIALS NOTED THAT SEVERAL SHIPMENTS FROM THE U.S. OF SO-CALLED "INSIDE SKIRTS" WERE IN FACT TRANSVERSUS ABDOMINUS, A PART OF SHORT PLATE (NAMP 121 A) WHICH IS SUBJECT TO QUOTA. IMPORTERS WERE ADVISED THAT MAFF WILL NOT INTERFERE WITH EXISTING CONTRACTS (ALTHOUGH CUSTOMS OFFICIALS MAY, NOW THAT DISTINCTION BETWEEN DIAPHRAGM AND TRANSVERSUS ABDOMINUS IS RECOGNIZED) BUT THAT ANY ATTEMPTS TO BRING IN TRANSVERSUS ABDOMINUS OUTSIDE QUOTA UNDER NEW CONTRACTS WILL BE CONSIDERED EVASION OF QUOTA AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO CRIMINAL PENALTIES. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING AND THAT OF RESPONSIBLE MEMBERS OF TRADE THAT MAFF ACTION IS SIMPLY A MOVE TO PREVENT EVASION OF EXISTING REGULATIONS. NO ONE SEEMS TO HAVE AN EXPLANATION FOR THE UNFORTUNATE TIMING. FULL DETAILS FORWARDED TO USDA AND USMTN GENEVA BY REF D. END UNCLASSIFIED.

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3. TBZ: DEVELOPMENTS ON TBZ REPORTED REFS B AND C. PRIOR TO AMBASSADOR'S JULY 3 CALL ON MIN. OF HEALTH AND WELFARE OZAWA, OZAWA HAD ALREADY OFFICIALLY REQUESTED FOOD SANITATION INVESTIGATION COUNCIL (FSIC) TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON TBZ APPROVAL. OZAWA TOLD AMBASSADOR THAT PM FUKUDA HAD INFORMED HIM OF IMPORTANCE OF TBZ CASE AND AS A RESULT HE HAD CHANGED MEMBERSHIP OF FSIC TO SPEED UP PROCESS. WE EXPECT APPROVAL IN 4 TO 6 WEEKS. MANSFIELD
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Concepts: IMPORTS, MEATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Office: ACTION STR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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